

Amendments To The Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) An extension spring strut, comprising
 - a pre-loaded helical extension spring (1) having
 - a first end, and
 - a second end;
 - a damper (4),
 - which is disposed inside the extension spring (1),
 - which has a housing (6) that is supported on the first end of the extension spring (1) and is filled with a damping fluid, and
 - which has a damping piston (7) disposed in the housing (6); and
 - which has a piston rod (8) that is mounted on the damping piston (7) and extended from the housing (6) and movable over a damping range and directed into the extension spring (1); and
 - an operating element (5),
 - which comprises an actuating tappet (11),

--- which is connected with the second end of the extension spring (1), and

--- which is movable over a total range c that includes the damping range a of the piston rod (8) and a no-load range b of the actuating tappet (11).

2. (Previously Presented) The extension spring strut according to claim 1, wherein $b > a$ applies to the damping range a to no-load range b ratio.

3. (Previously Presented) The extension spring strut according to claim 1, wherein the actuating tappet (11) is disposed for displaceable guidance in a guide tube (10).

4. (Previously Presented) The extension spring strut according to claim 3, wherein the guide tube (10) is coaxially joined to the housing (6) of the damper (4).

5. (Previously Presented) The extension spring strut according to claim 1, wherein the extension spring strut is longitudinally adjustable.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Previously Presented) The extension spring strut according to claim 1, wherein the damper (4) is a hydraulic damper.

8. (Previously Presented) An extension spring strut, comprising

- a pre-loaded extension spring (1) having
 - a first end, and
 - a second end;
- a damper (4),
 - which is disposed inside the extension spring (1),
 - which has a housing (6) that is supported on the first end of the extension spring (1), and
 - which has a piston rod (8) that is extended from the housing (6) and movable over a damping range and directed into the extension spring (1); and
 - an operating element (5),
 - which comprises an actuating tappet (11),
 - which is joined to the second end of the extension spring (1), and
 - which is movable over a total range c that includes the damping range a of the piston rod (8) and a no-load range b of the actuating tappet (11)

wherein the extension spring strut is longitudinally adjustable

wherein a first and a second abutment (13, 14) are mounted on the first and second end of the extension spring (1), with a first and a second holding bush (15, 16) being disposed in the first and second abutment (13, 14) for adjustment by threads (17, 18) that work in opposite directions; and

wherein the damper (4) bears against one of the first and second holding bush (15) and the actuating tappet (11) bears against one of the second and first holding bush (16).

9. (Previously Presented) The extension spring strut according to claim 8, wherein $b > a$ applies to the damping range a to no-load range b ratio.

10. (Previously Presented) The extension spring strut according to claim 8, wherein the actuating tappet (11) is disposed for displaceable guidance in a guide tube (10).

11. (Currently Amended) The extension spring strut according to ~~claim 3~~ claim 10, wherein the guide tube (10) is coaxially joined to the housing (6) of the damper (4).

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12. (Currently Amended) The extension spring strut according to ~~claim 1~~ claim 8, wherein the damper (4) is a hydraulic damper.